(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had decided to issue Smart Cards to Indians seeking overseas jobs to curb exploitations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) and (b) Government have received such complaints from time to time. On receipt of a complaint against a registered recruiting agent, a Show-Cause Notice is issued to him to resolve the matter. If the agent fails to settle the complaint within the prescribed time, action is taken to suspend and thereafter cancel the registration certificate and for fieture of Bank Guarantee. In cases of unregistered agents, the concerned Protector of Emigrant is directed to file a complaint with the concerned Police Authorities for taking action against them for violation of the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983.

(c) and (d) A proposal entitled "e-Governance solution for emigration" received from the Semiconductor Complex Ltd. (SCL), Punjab — a Government of India enterprise — is under consideration of the Government. The said proposal envisages establishing a complete IT infrastructure at the Office of Protector-General of Emigrants and eight field offices of the Protector of Emigrants and providing a tamper proof "Smart Card" based ID photo cards to emigrants which shall have adequate data storage capacity to carry emigrants' personal information, visa particulars, recruiting agent's details PoE office approval reference, insurance details, etc.

**Reservation for women in Government jobs**

1189. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation, with relaxation in age and educational qualification, is available for women candidates for appointment to various grades in Central Government Offices and Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of women appointed to various grades of posts reserved for them in different organizations during the last three years;

(c) if no such reservation or relaxation in age and educational qualification is available for women candidates, whether Government proposes to introduce such a system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Existing Rules do not provide for reservation or relaxation in educational qualifications for appointment to various Central Government services, for women candidates.

**Raising the upper age limit for women**

1190. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) what is the ratio of employment between men and women in Central Government Offices and PSUs;

(b) the number of people recruited in these offices during the last three years, gender-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether very few women get into Government service because by the time their children are out of their care, the women are over-age for Government service;

(d) if so, would the upper-age limit raised for women, say up to 45-50 years, to enable more and more women to join Government service for their economic emancipation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The ratio of percentage of employment between men and women is as under:

| | Men | Women |
|---|---|---|
| (i) Central Government Offices: (as on 31.3.2003) | 91.98 | : 8.02 |
| (ii) Central Public Sector Undertakings: (as on 31.3.2004) | 92.4 | : 7.6 |

(b) and (c) As recruitment to various posts is decentralized, information in this regard is not centrally available.